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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 2418.44US01

Kurata et al.

Confirmation No.: 9612

Application No.: 10/016,913

Examiner: Sang H. Nguyen

Filed: December 14, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2877

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETECTING GAP OF LIQUID-CRYSTAL PANEL AND APPARATUS THEREFOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Action or Notice of Allowance.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).

A copy of the International Search Report is enclosed for the Examiner's convenience.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas J. Christensen
Registration No.

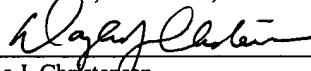
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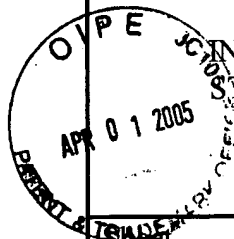
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Douglas J. Christensen



Substitute for form 1449/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT
(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	10/016,913
Filing Date	December 14, 2001
First Named Inventor	Kurata et al.
Art Unit	2877
Examiner Name	Sang H. Nguyen
Attorney Docket Number	2418.44US01

Sheet 1 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US-2001/0048528	12-06-2001	Choi
		US-5,298,972	03-29-1994	Heffner
		US-5,532,823	07-02-1996	Fukui et al.
		US-5,966,195	10-12-1999	Sato et al.
		US-6,081,337	06-27-2000	Kwok et al.
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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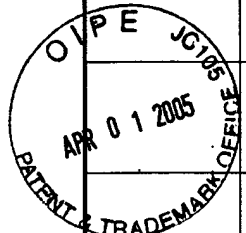
¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/016,913
				Filing Date	December 14, 2001
				First Named Inventor	Kurata et al.
				Art Unit	2877
				Examiner Name	Sang H. Nguyen
Sheet	2	of	2	Attorney Docket Number	2418.44US01

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		Choi, Wing-Kit, <i>P-85: Reflective Liquid-Crystal Cell-Gap Measurement Using Input-Polarization-Angle Dependence</i> , SID 02 Digest, Copyright 2002 SID, pages 530-533.	
		Stallinga, S., <i>Equivalent Retarder Approach To Reflective Liquid Crystal Displays</i> , Journal of Applied Physics, Vol. 86, No. 9, Dated November 1, 1999, pages 4756-4766	
		Tang, S.T., and Kwok, H. S., <i>3X3 Matrix for Unitary Optical Systems</i> , J. Opt. Soc. Am.A/Vol. 18, No.9, September 2001, pages 2138-2145.	
		Tang, S.T., and Kwok, H.S., <i>Measurement of Reflective LCD Cell Gap</i> , XP009042601, LCTp2-4, Dated 2000, pages 109-111.	
		Tang, S.T., and Kwok, H.S., <i>Measurement of Reflective Liquid Crystal Displays</i> , Journal of Applied Physics, Vol. 91, No. 11, Dated June 1, 2002, pages 8950-8954.	
		Wu, Shin-Tson, and Xu, Gang, <i>Cell Gap and Twist Angle Determinations of a Reflective Liquid Crystal Display</i> , IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices, Vol. 47, No. 12, Dated December 2000, pages 2290-2293.	



EXAMINER SIGNATURE	DATE CONSIDERED
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